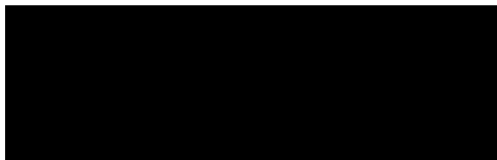


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In February 1949, Dr. [REDACTED] made a study of OSS Archives for OPC/Wisner to determine how historical studies could be prepared for OPC use. Quotations are from his report, dated 16 February 1949:

"As to selection of historians for the job, effort should be made to choose people who have had experience in war-history projects (preferably in Washington, I think) and who are not bound by meticulous, graduate school canons that might cause them to bury themselves in minutiae. They should be able to see beyond organization charts to essential functions, and to write clearly and concisely, using examples as illustrations, not as ends in themselves".

"....The job should not require a large organization - perhaps four or five well-qualified men."

"It might be advisable in CIA to have one or two outstanding historians to serve as advisers on the establishment of a historical program and on recruitment of personnel."

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"....I think that monographs would be more useful than overall history".

"Deadlines for the completion of studies should also be flexible. Historians are notoriously optimistic in their estimation of the amount of time needed to complete a given study. It is best to expect that it will take twice as long as they first anticipate. But a deadline does serve a useful purpose if used as a target date rather than a bludgeon. If a historian constantly runs far behind schedule and does not come up with a study that merits the extensions of time given him, it is best to be hard-hearted and turn him loose."

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